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Andrea C.  
2/11/02  
PATENT  
Customer Number 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 2356.0062-05



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In re Appln of: )  
Maurice MONCANY et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/670,105 ) Prior Group Art Unit: 1648  
Filed: September 26, 2000 ) Prior Examiner: J. Stucker

For: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES DERIVED FROM THE GENOME OF  
RETROVIRUSES OF THE HIV-1, HIV-2 AND SIV TYPE, AND THEIR USES IN  
PARTICULAR FOR THE AMPLIFICATION OF THE GENOMES OF THESE  
RETROVIRUSES AND FOR THE IN VITRO DIAGNOSIS OF THE DISEASES  
DUE TO THESE VIRUSES

02/05/2002 SMINASSI 00000032 09670105

Assistant Commissioner for Patents 01 FC:103 126.00 OP  
Washington, DC 20231 02 FC:102 252.00 OP

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH SEQUENCE RULES**

In response to the Communication dated December 4, 2001, requesting  
compliance with the Sequence Rules, 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825, applicants submit the  
following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

~~1 2 3~~ Please amend the claims as follows:

27. (Amended) A polypeptide fragment of a viral protein encoded by a  
nucleotide sequence from a viral genome selected from the group consisting of HIV-1,  
HIV-2, and SIV and expressed by a method comprising:

a) amplifying the nucleic acid encoding said polypeptide with at least two  
primers, wherein said first primer is complementary to a region of nucleotides of the

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com